WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A printer component comprising:

an interface configured for removably electrically coupling to a printer; and

a memory that stores a unique identifier of the printer through the interface if the interface is electrically coupled to the printer.

2.   The printer component of claim 1, wherein the unique identifier comprises a serial number of the printer.

3.   The printer component of claim 1, wherein the memory comprises write once read many memory.

4.   The printer component of claim 1, wherein the memory further stores a plurality of unique identifiers, with each unique identifier representing a different printer to which the interface has been electrically coupled.

5.   The printer component of claim 4, wherein each unique identifier is stored in a table in the memory.

6.   The printer component of claim 1, wherein the printer component comprises a printer cartridge.

7.   The printer component of claim 6, wherein the printer cartridge comprises one of an ink reservoir, an ink supply, a toner reservoir, and a toner supply.

8.   The printer component of claim 7, wherein the one of the ink reservoir, the ink supply, the toner reservoir, and the toner supply is refillable.

9.   A replaceable printer component comprising:

means for electrically coupling to a printer; and

means for storing a first unique identifier of a first printer if the means for electrically coupling to the printer is electrically coupled to the first printer.

10. The replaceable printer component of claim 9, further comprising:

means for storing a second unique identifier of a second printer if the means for electrically coupling to the printer is electrically coupled to the second printer.

11. The replaceable printer component of claim 10, wherein the means for storing the first unique identifier comprises a first entry in a table and the means for storing the second unique identifier comprises a second entry in the table.

12. A printing system comprising:

a printer including a printer memory that stores a unique identifier of the printer; and

a printer component including a component memory, the printer component configured for removable installation in the printer,

wherein the printer is configured to write the unique identifier of the printer to the component memory if the printer component is installed in the printer.

13. The printing system of claim 12, further comprising:

a user interface configured for displaying the unique identifier.

14. The printing system of claim 12, wherein the component memory comprises a table for storing a list of unique identifiers.

15. The printing system of claim 14, wherein the table stores at least one of an index, a date, and a time upon writing of the unique identifier of the printer to the component memory.

16.   The printing system of claim 14, further comprising:

a user interface configured for displaying the table.

17.   The printing system of claim 12, further comprising:

a controller configured for reading the unique identifier from the printer memory and writing the unique identifier to the component memory.

18.   The printing system of claim 17, wherein the controller is further configured for controlling the operation of the printer.

19.   The printing system of claim 12, further comprising:

a remote monitor module configured for communicating information about the printer component to a remote device.

20.   The printing system of claim 19, wherein the information comprises the unique identifier.

21.   A method of tracking a printer component, the method comprising:

installing a printer component in a first printer; and

writing a first unique identifier of the first printer to a memory of the printer component.

22.   The method of claim 21, further comprising:

removing the printer component from the first printer;

installing the printer component in a second printer; and

writing a second unique identifier of the second printer to the memory of the printer component.

23.   The method of claim 21, further comprising:

providing a user interface for the first printer; and

displaying the first unique identifier written to the memory of the printer component through the user interface.

24.   The method of claim 22, further comprising:

determining if the printer component has been installed in an unauthorized printer by checking a plurality of unique identifiers stored in the memory of the printer component to determine if one of the unique identifiers indicates an unauthorized printer.

25.   The method of claim 24, wherein determining if the printer component has been installed in an unauthorized printer comprises performing the determination over a network communication link coupled to a printer in which the printer component is installed.

26.   The method of claim 23, further comprising:

displaying a history of the printer component through the user interface, the history including the unique identifiers written to the memory during a lifetime of the printer component.

27.   The method of claim 26, wherein the user interface is coupled to a network communication link that is coupled to a printer in which the printer component is installed.

28.   The method of claim 21, further comprising:

writing at least one of a date and a time at which the printer component was installed in the first printer to the memory of the printer component.